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03500.017596.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
KENTARO MATSUMOTO)	Examiner: N/Y/A
Application No.: 10/662,362)	Group Art Unit: N/Y/A
Filed: September 16, 2003)	
For: IMAGE EDITING METHOD,)	
IMAGE EDITING)	
APPARATUS, PROGRAM)	
FOR IMPLEMENTING)	
IMAGE EDITING METHOD,)	
AND RECORDING MEDIUM)	
RECORDING PROGRAM)	May 27, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of document 3 is enclosed. Copies of documents 1 and 2 are not enclosed, however, pursuant to 1276 O.G. 55 (August 5, 2003).

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,619,738
- (2) U.S. Published Application No. 2003/0137525
- (3) JP 2000-217024

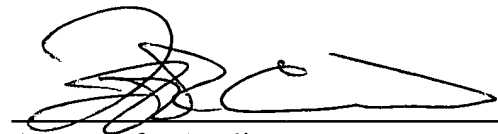
These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed.

An English-language abstract for the Japanese document cited in the European Search Report is enclosed. Also, the Examiner is directed to the European Search Report for a concise explanation of relevance for each of the documents listed above.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017596		APPLICATION NO. 10/662,362			
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT Kentaro Matsumoto					
		FILING DATE September 16, 2003			GROUP N/Y/A		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,619,738	4/97	Petruchik et al.	396	311	
		2003/0137525	7/03	Smith	345	671	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		2000-217024	4/00	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		Search Report in EP 03 25 5844					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.